

THE EVENING STAR,

With Sunday Morning Edition.

WASHINGTON.

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The Tariff and Hearings.

The democratic members of ways and means will not, it is announced, grant hearings in their labors on the Payne law. They do not consider them necessary. All data connected with the preparation of the law will be available, and will still be fresh. Only two years have elapsed since the republicans did their work, and few changes have taken place since. Cost productions and market conditions remain very much the same. But the latest figures will be gathered and weighed, and the measure or measure reported to the House will show conclusions based upon them.

When the republicans took up their task two years ago they had a very different situation to deal with. The law they were called upon to revise had been on the books twelve years, and the conditions it had been framed to meet had entirely disappeared. When the Dingley law was enacted the country was still rocking in the throes produced by the second Cleveland administration. Business was almost at a standstill, and all values were low. The necessary thing was a revision of the tariff calculated to restore confidence and put vigor into business again.

This the Dingley revision accomplished. Business revived at a bound, and by 1901—four years later—everything was moving so prosperously President McKinley signed the country, and the tariff further benefited by changes in the law. This he indicated in his speech at Buffalo, and had he lived they would have been made in a few months under his direction.

Mr. Payne and his friends, therefore, in taking up the work eight years later, found it necessary to go into the matter thoroughly, and to consult everybody in interest with information to impart. The hearings they granted were valuable to them and to the country.

But the work of the democratic committee will, of course, be open to review. When reported the tariff will be debated and every phase of it examined. Members who believe in protection, and whose constituents are demanding protection, will have opportunity to give their side of matters. And we may be sure they will be primed for the contest. The tariff they present will be such as their constituents want, and the committee will have means and committee had hearings been granted.

It is never possible to revise the tariff in a corner. The question is too large and touches at too many points to make such a procedure possible. Too many interests are involved. Too many people at such a time are following the business with absorbing concern. The Underwood bill or bills must be debated, and the debate will be sufficiently long to enable all in opposition to give their reasons and present the statistics of latest data upon which they are based.

A manuscript found in an Egyptian tomb is considered the oldest book in the world. It was written by a prince of the royal blood and is disappointing in its revelation of the same tendency which modern statesmen display to take refuge in philosophic generalization, instead of getting down to facts.

The trouble about some of the victories reported from Mexico is that the defeated troops persist in professions of complete ignorance concerning them.

Sporting authorities in Venezuela are compelled to concede that Jeffries even now has a better chance of coming back than Castro has.

Even a quick decision of a libel action will not suffice to stop the tongue of gossip.

The District Bill in Conference.

The Senate's prompt passage of the District appropriation bill throws that measure into conference between the two houses, where it will doubtless go through the usual process of compromise and adjustment. The Senate has added \$1,100,000 to the measure over the amount carried by it as it passed the House, and has replaced some of the items of "general legislation" struck out by the House on points of order and proposes several new matters of the same nature. It is in many respects one of the most satisfactory bills that has been prepared in Congress for some time. It appropriates more closely to the extent of the local revenues for the maintenance of the District government than the House bill, and thereby lessens the amount which the lower branch of Congress would have the District pay during the coming fiscal year in refund of the federal advances for large permanent improvements. It is recognition of the fact that it is almost impossible for the District to obtain any "general legislation" from Congress at a short session, it carries numerous items of that character which are urgently needed to correct existing conditions militating seriously against the public welfare. For example, it provides a method whereby substitute public school teachers can be employed by the board of education, to meet an emergency created by a decision of the controller of the Treasury. Unless this paragraph can be carried through by means of the District appropriation bill, the school work for an indefinite period, under a heavy handicap, with the teachers themselves seriously burdened by a condition which has no justification save in the technical construction of the existing statutes.

In one respect the bill, framed in accordance with the organic act, should pass unchanged from its present form. It is to be hoped that the Senate conferees will stoutly resist all efforts to effect a withdrawal from the amendment proposed by the entire appropriation for the maintenance of the public playgrounds shall be paid on the half-and-half basis. It is vitally important that this provision be made to conform to the appropriation bill, for the amendment proposed by the organization. The District would better afford to relinquish its playgrounds absolutely than to have them established by

act of Congress in violation of the federal-District partnership agreement. These little items financed "wholly out of the revenues of the District of Columbia," are extremely dangerous as precedents and justifications for subsequent encroachments by Congress.

It is unfortunate that the District budget should have to pass through such a process of change and adjustment from the time it is originally framed to the time it becomes a law. First the Commissioners' estimates are submitted, based upon actual needs, and, as in the present instance, confined strictly to the estimated revenues of the District, with equitable provision for the refund of the federal advances. Then the House committee on appropriations cuts and prunes and slashes, and transfers from the maintenance account a large part of the prospective revenues to the refund account, thereby depriving the various departments of the federal municipality not merely of the benefit of a certain number of District tax dollars for needed purposes of upkeep, but double the amount, inasmuch as every District dollar is matched by a federal dollar in all but refund operations. Then the bill goes into the House and is further despoiled, not only of amounts, but of needed paragraphs of prospective law, authorizations that are otherwise unobtainable. The Senate restores the bill to the original approximately meeting the local needs, and then it passes into conference, to be hacked and hewn back to a compromise form that still leaves the District turning an inordinate proportion of its tax revenues into the federal Treasury. The nature of what are virtually cash payments for large permanent improvements. If the House committee and the House were to deal with the District in a spirit of constructive liberality the Senate's increase would not necessarily be so large, and the conference adjustment would not effect so many changes.

The Boy Scouts.

The Boy Scout movement, which is just now strikingly in evidence through the assemblage of a national convention in this city, is a significant factor in the national life. It is not necessarily a product of militarism, although the boys are being drilled in military movements. It is no more calculated to make the American people a nation of soldiers than are the cadet corps of the various schools scattered throughout the country. The military form of organization has been adopted for two purposes, to interest the boys in something different from their ordinary lines of activity and to get them out of doors for a series of exercises that will be beneficial physically as well as morally.

In England the Boy Scout work was started in direct consequence of the disclosures of the war in the lamentable showing of the British soldier in South Africa caused the English people to realize that the young men of the country were not well developed or well disciplined. To arouse their patriotism, as well as to evolve them into sound, reformed men, Gen. Baden-Powell inaugurated this movement, which has vitalized the British youth and is today rated as one of the most important tendencies of the time, both educationally and morally.

The boy problem is a serious one, and it can be solved only through the most careful study and the wisest measures. In the present conditions of life boys are surrounded by circumstances that tend to distract them. They are distracted by amusements, thrown into the most casual associations, brought frankly into contact with unwholesome factors. The schools are doing excellent work in keeping their minds and bodies occupied, but there remains a large field of opportunity for further endeavor, and it is this field that the Boy Scouts are now occupying.

The president of the United States has attested his keen interest in this enterprise, accepting the position of honorary president and member of the council. The movement is fostered by men who have made a close study of juvenile questions, and who firmly believe that by affording the boys an outlet for their energies in miniature field maneuvers and camping expeditions and drills they are benefiting the rising generation through the preservation of health and the formation of character. Under competent direction this work can be made of invaluable service in evolving a generation of self-reliant, sturdy, patriotic young men. Numbering now more than 300,000 members, and rapidly growing, it has gained proportions that warrant the most sympathetic consideration as a national influence.

Persian officials claim that they have no graft in their government. This may be the case, and on the other hand, Persia may have something which answers the same purpose and which subjects are too polite and well disciplined to mention.

A Minnesota woman gave up stenography and took up farming. She now has 2,000 acres under profitable cultivation and does not have to bother about how words of more than three syllables are spelled.

The Whipping Post Again.

Mal Sylvester repeats his suggestion that the whipping post be established in Washington for the punishment of wife beaters and those who assault women and policemen, urging that a public whipping be the only adequate penalty for such miserable wretches. It is not to be believed that this idea will carry in any direction. It has been twice negated in this District, the second time emphatically by the House of Representatives, to which it was presented formally upon the instance of no less a proponent than the President of the United States.

Not long ago the whipping post came into evidence at close range through the public lashing of a wife beater at Hagerstown, Md., the punishment bringing to light a practice forgotten in the past, namely, that the barbaric custom of putting the lash upon offenders is still possible in that state under a statute which is obsolete and should be obsolete. But almost at the same time the radically progressive commonwealth of Oregon formally abolished the whipping post, which had been authorized by an early statute for the infliction of what was then deemed an adequate penalty upon wife beaters. Of the two actions that of Oregon was by far the more enlightened and the more surely in consonance with the modern spirit of corrections.

It is needless at this time to present the argument against the imposition of the lash as a punishment for wife beaters beyond suggesting that the whipping post, established in this District for such a purpose, would be almost inevitably followed by an increase in major crimes. As for the punishment of those who assault policemen, the law now carries a sufficient penalty, and it is not suggested, as the police are loath to prosecute those who attack them while they are in the discharge of their duties, surely no such threat as that of a public whipping

would make any police biter or puncher less belligerent.

In view of the definite refusal of Congress to pass any such archaic law with reference to the District of Columbia, it would seem to be in order for the chief of police to cease his occasional recommendations to this effect, which serve only to revive a subject that should be regarded as definitely closed.

After a member of Congress has stubbornly fought improvements in the District of Columbia there is nothing he enjoys more than showing a delegation of admiring constituents the exceptional beauties of the capital city.

After the declaration that Mr. Taft would be the republican presidential nominee, Gov. Harmon opened campaign headquarters in Cincinnati. This looks like carrying the war into the enemy's country.

Dr. Cook is reported to be engaging in a stage career. There was necessarily some doubt as to whether his particular talents fitted him to be a performer or a press agent.

The remarkable success Andrew Carnegie has enjoyed as a business organizer invites especial respect to any views he may express as to how business can be regulated.

San Francisco has never been able to understand why New Orleans, with all its Mardi Gras advantages, should envy another city a Panama canal celebration.

Despite the protests of various people, Mr. Lorimer insists on having the toga that his check calls for.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

Possible Crops Sacrificed.
"Farms are becoming valuable now."
"Yep," replied Mr. Comtossel, "I'll bet it won't be long before these city folks are sorry they covered up all their good land with houses."

A Sentimental Hindrance.
"The respect in which the Chinese hold their ancestors is admirable."
"Yes, but it must be a handicap to lawyers who make a specialty of breaking wills."

Airy Nothings.
The tire beneath the motor car.
Than rubber holds more air by far.
The gassy bubble in the drink
Is worth the sum it costs, some think;
The fan my lady proudly piles
Has value oft that would surprise.
The prices that we pay are queer
For nothing more than atmosphere.

Bridge Parties.
"Yes," said the New Yorker, "I take a great deal of interest in bridge parties."
"Do you mean the acquired Miss Cayenne?"
"To games of chance or the exciting journey to Brooklyn?"

A Monopolist.
"That fellow Tarantula Tim appears to say and do about what he likes."
"Yep," replied Bronco Bob. "He was pretty smart. In addition to being the only undertaker in town, he got himself elected corner man for his own perfection. Crimmon Gulch didn't put him out of business."

The Sensible Swain.
Why should I seek to praise her eyes
In phrases rarely coined,
And name the qualities so prized,
Which all in her are joined;
Why should I scan the distant sky,
And search the land and sea,
As for new similes I try
Her tributes fit to be?

Nay, nay! I'll burn no midnight oil
On poor thought loyal rhyme,
That by affording the boys an outlet for their energies in miniature field maneuvers and camping expeditions and drills they are benefiting the rising generation through the preservation of health and the formation of character. Under competent direction this work can be made of invaluable service in evolving a generation of self-reliant, sturdy, patriotic young men. Numbering now more than 300,000 members, and rapidly growing, it has gained proportions that warrant the most sympathetic consideration as a national influence.

Baltimore's Civic Center.

From the Baltimore American.
The suggestion made by City Surveyor Atwood to the effect that it is about time something should be done looking to the realization of the proposed civic-center scheme, is one that every large percentage of the people of Baltimore will indorse. Tentative plans for the contemplated site of the proposed civic center, prepared some time ago by noted landscape architects, and while these plans in the city of Baltimore, the project may be considered modified, they may be accepted as representing approximately the civic-center improvement idea involved. The important feature of the plan prepared by Messrs. Carrere, Bruner and Olmsted is the purchase or procurement by the city of the space between Fayette and Lexington streets, extending from opposite the city hall to Jones falls, and the space east of Harrison street, extending southward along the falls to Baltimore street.

Neighbors.

From the Toledo Blade.
The border of the United States and Mexico is a racial frontier. The people upon the two sides of the line are of widely different stocks. The boundary marks a natural demarcation, such as the lines between Germany and France, Switzerland and Italy, Bulgaria and Turkey. The Canadian frontier, on the other hand, is a purely political line, marking not a differentiation of races, but an arbitrary distinction which might not be existing today had a single military expedition of the revolutionary war been successful. There is little sentiment for the annexation of the two countries, and indeed, no need for it is to be found in their relations. But there is an insistent need for easier commercial communication.

Publicity for Cities.
From the Duluth Herald.
There is common sense in the bill before the legislature providing authority for cities to appropriate money for booster purposes. The advantages of publicity are recognized today as they never were before, and the application to municipalities of the principle that it pays to advertise has become an established factor in American city management. In every state there are cities that are profiting by a system of publicity. Sometimes the expense incurred in the management of such a system have been met by private subscription. In other cases they are covered by the treasuries of organizations, and in yet others wholly or partly by appropriations from the city's funds.

What's the Use?
From the Springfield Republican.
Senator Hayburn of Idaho is urging upon Congress a reduction in the price of the Congressional Record from \$4 to \$1 per session. He thinks this would be a circulation larger than that of any other periodical. Perhaps so. Ordinarily speaking the lower the price of a newspaper or periodical the larger the sales, but there are some publications whose circulation could not be increased by any amount of price reduction.

Rich Tax Dodgers.

From the Providence Tribune.
It is not surprising that Newport is the most expensive place in Rhode Island. It would be surprising if that city should proceed to remove the real cause of its financial trouble, the underassessment of the rich tax dodgers who have sought asylum there.

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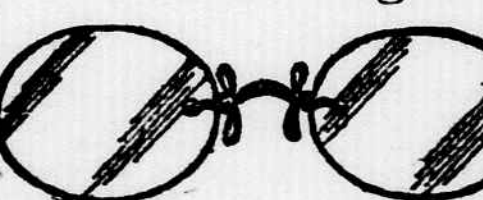
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From the Duluth Herald.



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Special—We will make to order Slip Covers for the average 5-piece Parlor Suite, of the best-grade cotton stripe, in colorings and effects similar to real linen, allowing 25 yards for the making, at the

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Specially Constructed Window and Door Screens.

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A wide range of attractive plain and duplex colors. Estimates cheerfully furnished.

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We are now showing an extensive line of new and attractive pieces, including Large Easy Chairs, Reclining Chairs, Couches, Settees, Sewing Chairs, Rockers, Tea Tables, Tea Carts, Bookcases, Swings, etc., in natural color and a rich shade of green. Also finished to order in any desired tint and cushions made for same at reasonable cost.

A Very Special Value.

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As illustrated. A wide arm, roomy and comfortable chair, in natural finish.

Special price, \$5.00 each. Cushions for same, \$1.00.

Other special values.

"New Brighton" Chair.

Natural finish....\$4.50
Brown or Green...\$5.50

"Bar Harbor" Chair.

Natural finish....\$2.90
Brown or Green...\$3.90

Cushions, \$1.00 extra.
Fourth floor, G. st.

Special Offering of Cluny Lace Bureau Scarfs, Table Covers and Pillow Shams.

Hand-drawn and Trimmed With Lace. 18x34-inch Scarfs—\$1.50. Value, \$2.25. 30-inch Table Covers—\$1.50. Value, \$2.25. 30-inch Shams—\$3.00 pair. Value, \$4.50.

Also a small lot of Florentine Lace-trimmed Luncheon Sets, consisting of one 28-inch centerpiece and 24 doilies in two sizes, offered at the special price,

\$30.00 set. Value, \$45.00. Also a small lot of 2x2-yard Renaissance Lace-trimmed Table Covers, strictly handmade, offered at the special price, \$7.50 each. Value, \$12.50.

Second floor, Eleventh st.

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Cups and Saucers, \$1.75 dozen upward.
Meat Dishes, 20c each upward.
Covered Dishes, 80c each upward.
Open Vegetable Dishes, 20c each upward.
Complete 100-piece Dinner Set, \$12.25.

Brilliant Cut Glass.

Of first quality and in the newest designs and shapes.

Footed Compots.....	\$1.75 up	Vases.....	25c up
Bonbon Dishes.....	\$1.00 up	Celery Trays.....	\$3.75 up
Fruit Bowls.....	\$2.75 up	Sugar and Cream Sets.....	\$2.75 up
Spoon Trays.....	\$1.75 up	Water Pitchers.....	\$2.75 up
Mayonnaise Bowls on Trays.....	\$2.75 up	Ice Cream Trays.....	\$5.00 up

Colonial Glassware.

Old Colonial patterns: worthy a place in any service. Suggestions of our extensive showing:

Berry or Salad Bowls.....	15c up	Finger Bowls, dozen.....	\$1.35 up
Water Pitchers.....	25c up	Plates, dozen.....	\$1.00 up
Oil or Vinegar Cruets.....	15c up	Sherbet Glasses, dozen.....	75c up
Handled Bonbon Dishes.....	12c up	Water Tumblers, dozen.....	40c up
Mayonnaise Bowls and Plates.....	50c up	Sauce Dishes, dozen.....	65c up
Coasters, dozen.....	\$1.25 up		

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